



2877

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Griffin  
Serial No.: 09/144,920  
Filed: September 01, 1998  
For: Optical Fiber with Numerical Aperture Compression  
Atty. Docket No.: 406-011

Art Group: 2877  
Examiner: Nguyen, T.

Box Non Fee Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## Response to Office Action Dated 9/14/00

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action dated 9/14/00, kindly amend the subject application as follows:

### Clean Version of Replacement Sections

In the Claims:

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1. An optical fiber with Numerical Aperture (NA) compression comprising:  
*al*  
a tapered fiber section of a predetermined length having a light input end of a first predetermined diameter and having a light output end of a second predetermined diameter greater than said first predetermined diameter, said tapered fiber section further being encased in a ferrule, and said light output end is either integrally formed with a lens surface or has a lens surface added thereto.
2. The combination according to Claim 1 wherein said tapered fiber section has a uniform taper from the light input end thereof to the light output end thereof.
3. The combination according to Claim 2 wherein said tapered fiber section has a generally conical shape.
4. The combination according to Claim 1 wherein said tapered fiber section has a generally conical shape.
5. An optical fiber with Numerical Aperture (NA) compression including in combination:

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